



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
Northwest Region  
7600 Sand Point Way N.E., Bldg. 1  
Seattle, WA 98115

Refer to:

OSB1999-0113

February 16, 1999

Mr. Howard Jones  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District  
Attn: CENWP-EC-E, Mr. Bob Willis  
P.O. Box 2946  
Portland, Oregon 97208-2946

Re: Biological Opinion on the Caspian Tern Relocation Pilot Project in the Columbia River Estuary,  
Clatsop County, Oregon

Dear Mr. Jones:

Enclosed is the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) biological opinion on the Caspian Tern Relocation Pilot Project as described in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Biological Assessment (BA) dated November 27, 1998. This opinion addresses Lower Columbia River steelhead, Snake River steelhead, Snake River fall chinook salmon, Snake River spring/summer chinook salmon, Snake River sockeye salmon, and Upper Columbia River steelhead, all listed as threatened, and Middle Columbia River steelhead, Lower Columbia River chinook salmon, Upper Willamette River steelhead, Upper Willamette River chinook salmon, Columbia River chum salmon and Upper Columbia River spring chinook salmon, all proposed as threatened. This opinion constitutes formal consultation for those listed species and formal conference for those proposed species. The NMFS has determined that the subject action as proposed is not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of all twelve listed and proposed species or destroy or adversely modify their designated critical habitat

Sincerely,

William Stelle, Jr.  
Regional Administrator

Enclosure

